CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512

February 8, 2001

Timothy G. Smith
Vice President. Power Development
Sunlaw Energy Corporation
P. O. Box 58324
Los Angeles, CA 90058

Dear Mr. Smith

NUEVA AZALEA POWER PLANT PROJECT 4TH ROUND DATA REQUESTS

Pursuant to Title 20, California Code of Regulations, section 1716, the California Energy Commission staff requests the information specified in the enclosed data requests. The information requested is necessary to: 1) more fully understand the project, 2) assess whether the facility will be constructed and operated in compliance with applicable regulations, 3) assess whether the project will result in significant environmental impacts, 4) assess whether the facilities will be constructed and operated in a safe, efficient and reliable manner, and 5) assess potential mitigation measures.

This set of data requests (#179-185) is being made in the areas of air quality, traffic and transportation and geology. Written responses to the enclosed data requests are due to the Energy Commission staff on or before March 8, 2000, or at such later date as may be mutually agreed.

If you are unable to provide the information requested, need additional time, or object to providing the requested information, you must send a written notice to both Commissioner Robert Pernell, Presiding Committee Member for the Nueva Azalea Power Plant Project proceeding, and to me, within 15 days of receipt of this notice. The notification must contain the reasons for not providing the information, the need for additional time and the grounds for any objections (see Title 20, California Code of Regulations section 1716 (e)).

If you have any questions, please call me at (916) 653-1245, or E-mail me at jreede@energy.state.ca.us.

Sincerely,

James W. Reede, Jr.
Energy Facility Siting Project Manager

Enclosure
cc: POS

Technical Area: Geological Hazards
Author: Robert Anderson

BACKGROUND

1. The combination of saturated soils of varying density and a potential for a moderately high peak horizontal ground acceleration, point to a moderate potential for liquefaction at the site. CBC Section 1804.5 requires that a liquefaction analysis be conducted for projects that are located in areas of known liquefaction potential. The project is located in an area of known liquefaction potential (California Division of Mines and Geology "Seismic Hazard Zones Map, South Gate Quadrangle", scale: 1;24,000. dated 1999.) On January 31, 2001, the CEC received a letter from Dr. John Dawson of Downey that indicated that liquefaction occurred at the Nueva Azalea Project location after the March 10, 1933, Long Beach earthquake (hard copy attached).

2. The Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC) recently released a report entitled "Accounting for Site Effects in Probabilistic Seismic Hazards Analyses of Southern California" (The SCEC Phase III Report) which is published in the *Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America*, volume 90, No. 6B, (December 2000).

DATA REQUEST

179. Please describe any liquefaction features that were observed at the proposed Nueva Azalea Power Plant site after the Long Beach earthquake of 1933.

180. Please discuss how the results of the SCEC Phase III report may or may not affect the determination of the peak horizontal ground acceleration determined for the Nueva Azalea Power Plant. If the peak horizontal ground acceleration for the project is determined to be different due to information provided in the SCEC Phase III Report, then please state what the revised peak horizontal ground acceleration for the project should be.

Technical Area: Traffic & Transportation
Author: James Fore, Lance Pagel

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the following data request is to determine, within the narrow interest of driver safety, any potential traffic impacts caused by the proposed lighting scheme for the structural exterior of the project. Applicable laws pertaining to light impairing driver's vision are contained in the California Vehicle Code, 2000, Section 21466.5. The primary concern is the brilliance of light coming from the project potentially impairing the vision of motorists traveling on Interstate 710. In order to make a determination as to possible impacts associated with the project, standards set forth in the California Vehicle Code Section 21466.5 should be adhered to, and a detailed lighting plan provided for review.

DATA REQUEST

181. Please provide a detailed lighting plan for the exterior of the plant site that covers the seasonal variation for the lighting of the exhaust stacks with accompanying color depictions of the various lighting plans for the plant site. The lighting plan will includes measurements of light brilliance pursuant to California Vehicle Code Section 21466.5 and any impact on roadways surrounding the plant site.

BACKGROUND

The applicant has indicated that groundwater contamination exists at the site. Caltrans has expressed concern that groundwater contamination may have migrated from the site on the west side of the property into the Caltrans right of way. It is important to establish the base line conditions for any groundwater contamination associated with this site prior to construction.

DATA REQUEST

182. Please provide a workplan to further investigate data on groundwater contamination focusing on the west side of the property. The data should establish the levels of any contamination and the delineation of any groundwater plumes that may have migrated off of the property and into Caltrans' Right-of-way.

TECHNICAL AREA: AIR QUALITY
AUTHOR: Guido Franco

BACKGROUND

We have received a copy of a letter dated January 15, 2001 from the Genetics Institute Inc (GI) to the U.S. EPA. In this letter, GI reports nitrogen oxides (NOx) concentrations above their permitted level of 2.5 ppmv from October through December 2000 reporting period.

GI has installed a high temperature SCONOx system similar, we assume, to the system that would be installed in Nueva Azalea. The GT unit is a 5 MWe gas turbine and our understanding is that this is the first system using a high temperature SCONOx system. We would like to know more about the potential implications of these failures for the system to be used in Nueva Azalea.

DATA REQUEST

183. Please provide information regarding the causes of the concentrations above 2.5 ppmv and how they are being addressed. Please also provide a discussion indicating how these problems will be solved at the GI facility.

184. Please provide a discussion of any other testing done with gas turbines using high temperature SCONOx systems that have not shown a similar problem.

185. Please discuss how the manufactures of the SCONOx system plan to make sure that the high temperature SONOX technology will be ready when needed for the Nueva Azalea project.